



City of Greensboro

NEWS RELEASE



Contact: Leslie Lipa, Community Liaison

Office: 574-4088

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**GREENSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT
ALONG WITH AREA AGENCIES TO PRESENT
"VIP FOR A VIP" PROGRAM TO
EASTERN GUILFORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND PARENTS**

One of the hottest issues affecting us all, is motor vehicle safety. In particular, teen drivers are being injured at an alarming rate. On Thursday, October 20th, Greensboro Fire Department and McLeansville Fire Department, Pinecroft-Sedgefield Fire Department, along with Guilford County EMS, Triad MADD, Guilford County Fire & Rescue Council, Greensboro Police Department, Guilford County Sheriff Department, North Carolina Highway Patrol, Guilford County School System, Eastern Guilford High School PTSA, Lowe's Home Improvement North Greensboro, Gregson Signs, Allstate Insurance, Progressive Insurance, Kirk's Sineath Towing, Greensboro Professional Firefighters Association, Guilford County Fire & Life Safety Committee and Modern Rescue & Safety Equipment, Inc., will offer an informative and moving program to teen drivers and their families in an effort to prevent future tragedies.

The "VIP for a VIP" (Vehicle Injury Prevention for a Very Important Person), consists of a powerpoint presentation of facts and figures directly related to teenager fatalities, which will be given to Junior and Senior students, along with a 20 minute video to be shown at 10:35 am in the Eastern Guilford Auditorium. At 2:15 pm, the students will be moved outside for a demonstration of a fatal car crash. In preparation of the event earlier this week, students and parents were encouraged to complete and return to school a "VIP Contract for the Life of a VIP". This contract outlines safety measures the student promises to take so that he/she can remain safe while operating a vehicle, in addition to agreeing to a "zero tolerance" for drugs or alcohol.

This program is dedicated to the two (2) students who have lost their lives in motor vehicle accidents at Eastern Guilford High School since it opened in 1974. We sincerely believe that through an on-going teenage driver safety program and strong parental support, teenage traffic fatalities can be eliminated in our community.

For more information, contact Tony Scales, Guilford County School Program Administrator for School Safety at 370-8995, or Leslie Lipa with the Greensboro Fire Department at 574-4088.

Location of Program:

Eastern Guilford High School
415 Peeden Drive
Gibsonville, NC 27249

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